



# SAINT ANN'S SCHOOL

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Head of School

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Dear Saint Ann's Community,

Education at Saint Ann's is a process of making sense of the unknown and integrating it into our own experience, of equipping students with the tools of inquiry and habits of mind that enable them to create, to converse, and to celebrate our shared humanity. The exigencies of this historical moment have required us to find new means and methods through which to carry out our mission, but our fundamental aspirations remain the same as we look ahead to the coming week.

## Middle and High School Plan

On Monday, we will embark on our new middle and high school hybrid schedule. I know that the well-being of our students will be enhanced by offering them one more day a week to be at school in person, and that current public health metrics mean we have an opportunity to make this possible. We will continue to watch carefully the health status of our own community and of the city in the coming weeks so as to continue to prioritize health and safety.

All faculty and students in those divisions should be sure to check their updated schedules in Veracross on Monday to make sure they know where to be when on in-person days, as some room locations will have changed. As a reminder, below are the days each grade is invited to come to school in person. Students who have been participating remotely may continue to do so.

Mondays: Grades 4, 5 and 7

Tuesdays: Grades 4, 5, 6 and 8

Wednesdays: Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12

Thursdays: Grades 6, 7 and 8

Fridays: Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12

In order to maintain all of our existing health and safety protocols, we will be using some new auxiliary spaces for classes next week. These include the Parish Hall of St. Ann's Church and the sanctuary and chapel of the First Unitarian Church. All indoor spaces used for student classes or activities are cleaned regularly using the same procedures outlined in our reopening plan.

## Health and Safety

It is thanks in no small part to the attentiveness, care and seriousness with which everyone—students, faculty, and families—has approached our new procedures that we feel confident about bringing additional students to campus next week. Let's keep it up. In addition to masking, distancing, hand hygiene, and the daily Ruvna



screening, I want to remind everyone about the importance of departing school promptly after their classes end so that we avoid group gatherings either inside or outside of campus buildings. The ability to gather together at school is undoubtedly one of the things we all continue to miss most in this environment, and I know that will be a particular challenge next week, but it is by keeping our distance that we can continue to come together!

### **Can My Child Go to School Today?**

[Our school nurses have created a flowchart based on New York State and NYC guidelines that outlines when a child must be kept home from school and when they can return.](#) We will also make color hard copies available at drop-off in the Preschool, Kindergarten and Lower School next week. **Please note, we are requiring a negative PCR test to return to school for students and employees; a negative antigen test result will need to be confirmed by a negative PCR test.** If you (as an employee) or your child are experiencing any Covid-19 symptoms on a night or weekend we encourage you to [go get tested](#) even if you have contacted our nurses and are waiting to hear back (the testing site lists on the Portals have also been updated). If you have any questions about these policies, get in touch with Pumpkin at [nurses@saintannsny.org](mailto:nurses@saintannsny.org).

### **Surveillance Testing at School**

We are actively consulting with members of our physicians advisory group to evaluate our options for pooled surveillance testing (which samples a certain percentage of the school population weekly to monitor for increasing or decreasing prevalence) at school, and are in conversation with peer schools who are implementing similar systems to incorporate what we can learn from their experience. We expect to have more information for you on the implementation of testing in the next two weeks.

### **COVID Alert NY Contact Tracing App**

New York State has released a contact tracing mobile phone app. We encourage you to download the app as one more layer of protection in keeping our community—and all of the communities of which we are all a part—safe. To learn more and download the app [click here](#).

### **Travel Planning**

As you plan travel for the coming months, please bear in mind the 14-day quarantine required of anyone returning to New York from states or countries on the [New York State travel advisory list](#). Saint Ann's students and employees are expected to complete any state-mandated quarantine periods before returning to any school building.

### **This Week's Numbers**

We have no confirmed cases of Covid-19 among students or employees to report to you this week. We have updated the [dashboard](#) on the Parent Portal. As a reminder, it is our intent to notify the full community as quickly as practicable in the event that we do have any confirmed cases at school.

Wishing everyone a safe and healthy weekend.

Loy  
*Vince*